## REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL - RFP #200811325 MAINE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND RURAL RESOURCES MAINE FARMS FOR THE FUTURE PROGRAM

The Maine Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources, Market and Production Development Division, is requesting farmer's applications to the Maine Farms for the Future Program (FFF) – Phase 1 - Business Plan Development Program. To be eligible an applicant must own a farm that has been producing agricultural products commercially in the State of Maine for at least two (2) years at the time of application. The applicant must have operated the farm for the two years, or if having recently purchased the farm, must have had at least two years experience operating another farm.

Copies of the Request for Proposals (RFP) and program application are available from Cheryl Maschino, DAFRR- M&PD, 28 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0041. <a href="maschino@maine.gov">cheryl.maschino@maine.gov</a>. Questions about the RFP must be directed in writing to Jane Aiudi, Director, Division of Market & Production Development at the above address via US Mail or email <a href="maine.gov">Jane.aiudi@maine.gov</a>. Phone inquiries will not be accepted

Six (6) sealed copies of the proposal clearly marked with your return address and the notation: "Proposal: Farms for the Future Business Plan Development Program" must be delivered to the Division of Purchases, Burton M. Cross Building, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 111 Sewall Street, 9 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0009, no later than 2:00 p.m. local time on **Monday, December 22, 2008**, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud.